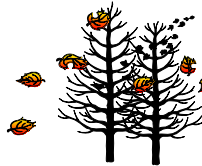


AIEO UPDATE

Friends, Associates and Customers of AIEO: AIEO UPDATE is published at least four times each year to provide information on the activities of the USEPA's American Indian Environmental Office (AIEO). AIEO greatly encourages input and feedback. AIEO UPDATE is available through electronic mail and in the EPA AIEO Web Page under "What's New" and "Publications." Please contact Marlene Regelski at (202) 260-7284 or through e-mail (regelski.marlene@epa.gov) for more information or submissions you may have.



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THE GENERAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (GAP) *AIEO has national program responsibility for administering the GAP program to support development of Tribal Environmental Programs. Established in 1993, GAP funds assist Tribal Governments and Intertribal Consortia in planning, developing or establishing environmental protection programs.*

AIEO is pursuing several initiatives within the Indian Environmental General Assistance program (GAP). In addition to completing the first GAP Report to Congress in five years, AIEO is working to both increase the responsiveness of the GAP and to guide the expanded range of activities that can be funded. Specifically, AIEO has moved forward with the annual disbursement of funds to the Regions, enabling a smoother transition from work plan negotiations to actual project efforts. Decisions on the National Set-Aside will be made soon, and will be timed to work in concert with other regional funding decisions.

The advent of new grant regulations will add a dimension of flexibility to the GAP program. When these regulations become effective, GAP funding may be used in implementing solid and hazardous waste programs. In addition, GAP funds may also be combined with certain other EPA grants as part of a Performance Partnership Grant (PPG) allowing a wide range of tribal environmental program activities to be addressed in a single funding mechanism. AIEO is working with other EPA Program offices to provide clear direction in how to access the flexibility in both these areas. **AIEO contacts:** (GAP) **Rodges Ankrah** at (202) 260-9840, ankrah.rodges@epa.gov or (PPG) **Bob Smith** (202) 260-8202, smith.bob-nmi@epa.gov, and **Jose Aguto** (202) 260-6084, aguto.jose@epa.gov.

PERFORMANCE PARTNERSHIP GRANTS (PPGs) *were first proposed as a budgetary and administrative amendment in FY 96. They are intended to increase grant regulatory flexibility and relieve administrative burdens without sacrificing accountability for federal funds and to allow multimedia and pollution prevention strategies. They are proposed for States as well as Tribes.*

The **Performance Partnership Grant (PPG)** Rule was signed by the Administrator on December 29, 2000 and appeared in the Federal Register on January 16, 2001. The rule will apply to new grants awarded anytime after the PPG Rule's yet undetermined effective date. The PPG rule will not apply to grants awarded prior to the effective date. All rules published, but which have not reached their effective date are currently under a review period. The final rule is available on AIEO Web Page (www.epa.gov/indian) under "What's New" and "Laws, Regs & Guidance". The direct web page is: <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/EPA-GENERAL/2001/January/Day-16/g219.htm> **AIEO Contact: Bob Smith:** (202) 260-8202, Smith.Bob-nmi@epa.gov

FEDERAL WATER QUALITY STANDARDS FOR INDIAN COUNTRY: EPA

is proposing Federal water quality standards for Indian Country waters as a first step toward ensuring that the Clean Water Act framework for protecting water quality is in place for all Indian Country waters that do not yet have water quality standards under the Clean Water Act.

The proposed rule for **Federal Water Quality Standards for Indian Country** was signed by the Administrator on January 19, 2001 with Office of Management and Budget clearance. The proposed rule would establish the core Water Quality Standards under the Clean Water Act (CWA), including use designations consistent with section 101 (a) goals of the CWA, water quality criteria sufficient to protect those uses, and an antidegradation policy.

Tribes would continue to be able to apply for eligibility and develop their own standards for approval under the CWA. Once a Tribe has their own standards adopted and approved, the core standards would no longer apply to those waters where the Tribe's standards apply. In addition, if a Tribe already has a plan, or intends to develop a plan for establishing water quality standards within a reasonable amount of time, the Tribe could "opt out" of the core water quality standards upon approval by the EPA Regional Administrator. Publication in the Federal Register is pending. The proposed rule, when published, will be available on AIEO web page under "What's New" **AIEO CONTACT: Tony Hanson**, (202) 260-8106, Hanson.Anthony@epa.gov **OST Contact: Joanne Dea**, (202) 260-7301, dea.joanne@epa.gov

AIEO NEWS

VACANCIES FILLED IN AIEO: Last summer AIEO completed a national recruitment for the Deputy Office Director position, and for three other positions: Program Analyst, Environmental Protection Specialist and Environmental Scientist, (advertised at levels GS -9 to GS-13). The announcements for the vacancies were available on www.usajobs.gov where all EPA job openings are posted. The closing date for all applications was August 4, 2000. Three vacancies were filled with individuals that are talented and have a depth of experience that AIEO is very pleased to have.

JEFF BESOUGLOFF AS DEPUTY DIRECTOR In November, AIEO welcomed Jeff Besougloff after eight years as the Director of Environmental Programs for two federally recognized Indian Tribes in Minnesota - the Upper Sioux Community and the Lower Sioux Indian Community. He worked on a wide variety of environmental regulatory programs with EPA and served as a member of the Region 5 Regional Tribal Operations Committee and as Chairman of OPPT's FOSTTA Tribal Affairs Project. Prior to working with the Tribes he practiced law in the District of Columbia and Virginia for five years. A native of Toms River, New Jersey, Jeff graduated with a B.A. degree in Philosophy from Marietta College in Ohio, a J.D. from Rutgers University in New Jersey, and a M.S. degree in Environmental Education from Southern Oregon University. He may be reached at (202) 260-7939.

JOSE AGUTO -Jose joined AIEO in October 2000 as an EPA employee after completing a 6 month internship with the office. He is working on legal and policy matters of our Tribal Environmental Program. His previous work experience in Indian country includes summer legal internships with the Tribal Attorney's Office for the Oglala Sioux Tribe and the Tribal Prosecutor's Office for Lummi Indian Nation. He has a B.A. in International Relations from Brown University, a J.D. from Villanova University, and is near completion of a M.Sc. in Environmental Studies from Tufts University. He is licensed to practice law in the State of Maryland. Other work experience includes policy and development work with the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, policy guidance in EPA's Office of Cooperative Environmental Management, and the advancement of constitutional rights with the Ateneo Human Rights Center in the Philippines. Currently he is working on the implementation of the new Executive Order on Tribal Consultation, the Disadvantaged Business Enterprises Rule, the Performance Partnership Grants Rule, Lead Based Paint generalized findings, interagency initiatives, and other EPA actions impacting Tribal governments. His phone number is (202) 260-6084.

MARTHA ("MARTY") KUCERA who filled the position of Program Analyst, has been with EPA in the Office of Water for 16 years. She comes to AIEO from the Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water, Standards and Risks Management Division where she had extensive experience in managing intramural and extramural budgets. She has certification and training in contracts and grants management, custodial and property management, and a variety of financial management software programs. Marty also served as the Designated Federal Official for the Microbial and Disinfectants/Disinfection By-Products Federal Advisory Committee for EPA. Her phone number is: (202) 260-7773

BASELINE ASSESSMENTS - A specific objective of the EPA Strategic Plan is to work with Indian Tribes to assess Indian

Country for its environmental conditions. The purpose of the Baseline Assessment of Indian Country is to assemble, in an easy to use and accessible format, the environmental data important to support sound environmental planning and management, both for the Tribes and for EPA.

The **BASELINE ASSESSMENT** of environmental conditions in Indian country is in the data collection and consolidation phase. Information from existing Federal databases is being brought together in a format to be "Tribally enabled" This means that the data can be searched in regard to the location of Tribal lands - which has not been possible in the past. Since returning from a detail to the Senate Indian Affairs Committee, Tonya Fish also will be joining Ed Liu in managing parts of the expanding project. **AIEO Contact: Dr. Ed Liu**, (202) 260-9872, liu.ed@epa.gov or **Tonya Fish**, (202) 260-0769, Fish.Tonya@epa.gov

TRIBAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE: *The Tribal Operations Committee (TOC) consists of the EPA Senior Leadership Council from EPA HQs and Regions, and the Tribal Caucus - Tribal Representatives from each of EPA's Regions. Tribal Caucus members are selected by the Tribes in each Region. This group meets on a regular basis to discuss implementation of the environmental protection programs for which EPA and the Tribes share responsibility as co-regulators. All Tribes are encouraged to communicate with members of the TOC. A list of current Tribal Caucus Members is available through AIEO, Regions and on the AIEO Web Page at: <http://www.epa.gov/indian>*

TRIBAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING: The Tribal Caucus of the Tribal Operations Committee held their annual elections at the meeting concurrent with the National Indian Work Group (NIWG) and the National Indian Law Work Group (NILWG) at the Miccosukee Tribe in Miami, Florida, November 28-29, 2000. The newly elected officers of the Tribal Caucus are:

Chairman:	Chairman Apesanahkwat,	R5 - Memominee Tribe
Vice-Chairperson:	Latane Donelin,	R7 - Prairie Band of Potawatomi Nation of Kansas
Secretary:	Derrith Watchman Moore,	R9 - Navajo Nation

An updated list of the Tribal Caucus consisting of the newly elected officers and the results of regional elections is available on the AIEO web-site or you may contact **Theresa Fleming** at (202) 260-3986 to request a copy of the membership list.

As the new Administration transitions, the Tribal Caucus will continue to work with the Environmental Protection Agency and focus on the health and welfare of the people in Indian Country. **AIEO Contact: Theresa Fleming**, (202) 260-3986, Fleming-Blue.Theresa@epa.gov

GPRA, BUDGET and LEADERSHIP NEWS

STATUS OF 2001 EPA APPROPRIATIONS: Highlights of FY 2001 Tribal Program Resources

On October 27, 2001, the President signed EPA's Appropriations Bill for FY 2001. Overall, the Agency received a total of \$7.83 Billion, an increase of \$571 Million over the President's Request and \$265 Million over the FY 2000 enacted budget level. Highlights of the bill for the Agency's Tribal Program are as follows:

Indian General Assistance Program (GAP) - A total of \$52,585,000 for the Indian General Assistance Program (GAP), an increase of \$10 Million over the FY 2000 level.

Clean Water Tribal Set-Aside from ½ percent to 1 ½ percent - Authority (one year only) to reserve up to 1 ½ percent of the Clean Water Act SRF funding for Tribal Wastewater Treatment Projects. This increase would provide approximately \$12 million to Tribes.

Clean Water Act (Section 319) - Non-point Source - Authority (one year only) to eliminate the set-aside cap on Clean Water Act Non-point Source (Section 319) funds.

EPA/Tribal Cooperative Agreement Authority - New authority (one year only) for EPA/Tribal Cooperative Agreements to implement federal environmental programs. An EPA workgroup has been formed to implement this one year authority.

AIEO contact: Dianne Baucom, (202) 260-8822, baucom.dianne@epa.gov

OTHER NEWS FROM PROGRAMS, REGIONS and PARTNERS- *News on Meetings, Publications, Training, Interagency Workgroups, etc.***OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT**

TRIBAL SCIENCE COUNCIL: Plans are underway to establish a Tribal Science Council by EPA's Office of Research & Development and the American Indian Environmental Office. A memorandum from Dr. Norine Noonan, Assistant Administrator for Research and Development, and Chuck Fox, Assistant Administrator for Water, was sent in July 2000 inviting EPA Offices to appoint a representative to the Council. Agency representatives include OAR, OW, OPPTS, OPEI, OEI, AIEO, ORD, and Regional representatives from Regions 1, 2, and 6 through 10. In addition to Agency membership, the Tribal Caucus designated several tribal representatives to serve for the interim on the Tribal Science Council to assist in the configuration of the Tribal Science Council. The Agency and tribal representatives of the Tribal Science Council met in Florida on November 30 to discuss what the mission of the Tribal Science Council should be. The tribal representatives were able to share the views of their respective Regional Tribal Caucuses and the National Tribal Caucus which had been able to discuss the TSC earlier in the week. The draft mission statement and concept of the Tribal Science Council will be discussed at the next full National Tribal Operations Committee meeting. **AIEO contact: Marlene Regelski**, (202) 260-7284; regelski.marlene@epa.gov **ORD CONTACT: Claudia Walters**, (202) 564-6762, walters.claudia@epa.gov

National Risk Management Research Laboratory (NRMRL), ORD - Environmental Learning Community Project

The Environmental Learning Community (ELC), an online learning community, was established by and is administered through Montana Tech of The University of Montana in Butte, Montana. Funding for the Program comes through the Mine Waste Technology Programs and the NewMedia Communications Group. Additional support has been provided by the USEPA's Office of Research and Development (ORD) National Risk Management Research Laboratory (NRMRL) in Cincinnati, Ohio.

ELC has worked with Tribes, Tribal Universities, and training programs. Primary educational and research activities include:

Technology Transfer
Technical Outreach
Multimedia Programming
Traditional Education

Environmental Short Courses
Web-Based Education & Learning Communities
Greenway Planning & Brownfields Work

The ELC is comprised of a Media Library, Links Library, Communications, and Online Courses for credit, at a number of Universities including: The University of Montana, Michigan State University, Dartmouth College, Middlebury College and Kansas State University. To access the ELC, you may go to <http://multimedia.mtech.edu/elc>. The portion of the ELC which was funded, in part, by ORD can be accessed by clicking or typing:

self-paced (left side)
environmental planning
guest (name)
guest (password))
class ready
course documents

Scroll to the topic of interest. If anyone is interested in a brochure, please contact: **Douglas W. Grosse**, USEPA National Risk Management Research Laboratory, 26 W. Martin Luther King Dr., Cincinnati, Ohio 45268-0001 - Phone: 513-569-7844, Fax: 513-569-7585, or grosse.douglas@epa.gov

OFFICE OF POLLUTION, PESTICIDES AND TOXIC SUBSTANCES

OPPTS TRIBAL PROGRAM STRATEGY: Susan Wayland and Stephen Johnson issued memos during Summer 2000 initiating a process for developing an "OPPTS Tribal Strategic Plan." The development of a Tribal Strategic Plan will allow OPPTS to build a better foundation for implementing its programs in Indian Country in accordance with EPA's Indian Policy. The Plan will identify key goals and objectives for Indian Tribes and will provide a map for OPPTS to follow as it implements Tribal programs well into the 21st Century. Also, the Plan can assist OPPTS with future development of EPA's overall Strategic Plan which is the basis for planning, budgeting, and accountability in fulfilling the requirements under the Government Performance and Result Act (GPRA). This effort will also fulfill the recent call by the Deputy Administrator asking that each of the EPA program offices develop its own respective Tribal strategies.

A workgroup has been established comprised of managers and staff from across OPPTS programs and Region 5 and 8, which will

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coordinate with the other Regions to oversee the development of the Plan. Tribal input has already been sought from key OPPTS Tribal representatives including the National Tribal Operations Committee, the Forum on State and Tribal Toxic Action Tribal Work Group, and the Tribal Pesticides Program Council. A draft framework has been established, which will be used as the discussion document at upcoming meetings. The Strategic Planning Workgroup is recommending a three phase process for developing the Strategy in roughly one-year. Broad Tribal input will be sought during Phase II. **OPPT Contact: Mary Lauterbach**, (202) 260-9563, Lauterbach.Mary@epa.gov

TRIBAL PESTICIDE COUNCIL MEETING

The third full meeting of the **Tribal Pesticide Program Council (TPPC)** will be held at the Embassy Suites Hotel, Crystal City - Arlington, Virginia near National Airport on March 8-9, 2001. The TPPC was formed through a grant from the Office of Pesticide Programs. Its membership consists of approximately 30 Tribes with EPA Pesticide programs and a number of Tribes with pesticide interests. The group, led by an Executive Committee of 13 tribal representatives, works closely with EPA and other tribal organizations to assess policy and funding needs in Indian country and ensure that federal pesticide regulations are effectively applied to Tribal land. The agenda for this open meeting is not finalized. **OPP Contact: Georgia McDuffie**, (703) 605-0195, mcduffie.georgia@epa.gov, or for additional information, contact the **TPPC Coordinator** at (617) 232-5742, NAEcology@aol.com.

OFFICE OF SOLID WASTE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE (OSWER)

TRIBAL ASSOCIATION OF SOLID WASTE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE (TASWER) Cooperative Agreement with OSWER: **TASWER** has initiated a three year project with the University of Tulsa's National Energy-Environment Law and Policy Institute to conduct research in two areas: 1. identifying Tribes in the U.S. that have known or suspected hazardous waste contamination sites on or near Indian country which potentially impact human health and the environment, and assessing those sites for risk to human health and the environment; and, 2. developing a Cultural Based Risk Assessment process, which may serve as a model for Tribes involved with hazard ranking or remedial investigations. These efforts will be coordinated with existing efforts by EPA, OSWER, and tribes conducting similar activities in these areas. **TASWER** will consult with tribes and other experts to understand the varied approaches being used to resolve risk assessment issues related to tribal cultural practices. It will document existing cultural based risk assessment work, goals and needs for the effort in developing a national model. **OSWER Contact: Felicia Wright**, (202) 260-4410, wright.felicia@epa.gov, or visit **TASWER's web site: www.taswer.org**

INTERAGENCY OPEN DUMP CLEANUP PROJECT: The Tribal Solid Waste Interagency Workgroup solicitation process for the *Fiscal Year 2001 Tribal Open Dump Cleanup Project* is open until February 23, 2001 when full proposals are due by the close of business. Forty-three pre-proposals were received by the November 13, 2000 pre-proposal deadline. Tribes are not required to submit a pre-proposal for this grant program, so a full proposal still can be submitted until the February 23, 2001 due date. The purpose of the Cleanup Project is to assist Tribal communities with closing or upgrading high threat waste disposal sites and providing alternative disposal options. The Interagency Workgroup helps participating Federal agencies to coordinate their assistance to Tribes. Current workgroup members include representatives from the Environmental Protection Agency, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Indian Health Service, Federal Aviation Administration, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Geological Survey, and the Departments of Agriculture, Defense, and Housing & Urban Development. **EPA OSW Contact: Luke Jones**, (703) 605-0728 or, Jones.Luke@epa.gov.

TRIBAL HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT GRANTS: The Office of Solid Waste (OSW) will distribute the FY 2001 solicitation for *Tribal Hazardous Waste Management Grants* in February, 2001. Solicitation letters are distributed to Tribes by each of the Regional Tribal Waste Management Programs. OSW has a total of \$300,000 for this grant program and will issue grants directly from EPA Regional Offices. The grant program supports Tribal hazardous waste program planning, development, and implementation. Tribes interested in financial support for hazardous waste management programs should work directly with the Regional Tribal Waste Management Program to develop an abstract for the potential project. Project proposals are due in late March. Please refer to Section III of the *RCRA Orientation Manual* for more information about activities eligible for funding under the OSW RCRA hazardous waste program. The manual is available on line at: <http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/general/orientat/>. **OSW Contact: Denise Roy**, (703) 308-8458, or Roy.Denise@epa.gov

GIS MAPPING OF RCRA HAZARDOUS WASTE FACILITIES: OSW is developing a map of RCRA Subtitle C (Hazardous Waste) Facilities located on or adjacent to Indian Country. This will include all Treatment, Storage, & Disposal Facilities and Large Quantity Generators. The effort is closely coordinated with the American Indian Environmental Office Baseline Assessment Project, and the

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EPA Office of Environmental Information. Results from this effort will be available to the general public under the EnviroFacts web site: http://www.epa.gov/enviro/index_java.html. **OSW Contact:** **Melissa Galyon**, (703) 605-0698, or Galyon.Melissa@epa.gov

FUNDING IMPLEMENTATION OF SOLID & HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAMS UNDER GENERAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (GAP): OSW is working with managers of the GAP grants in anticipation of requests for funding Tribal solid and hazardous waste program implementation activities under GAP grant authority (as soon as the Tribal PPG Rule becomes effective). OSW anticipates increased cooperation between staff from the Regional Tribal Programs and the Tribal Waste Management Programs. This cooperation may involve the identification of potential implementation activities, review of implementation proposals submitted under GAP, and coordination on funding decisions for solid and hazardous waste implementation activities. OSW will discuss these issues with GAP program managers at the February 14-15 *National Indian Environmental General Assistance Program Project Officer Working Session* in San Francisco, CA. **OSW Contact:** **Luke Jones**, (703) 605-0728, Jones.Luke@epa.gov

OFFICE OF AIR AND RADIATION

New Tribal Programs Coordinator for OAQPS

Laura McKelvey has been selected as the new **Tribal Programs Coordinator for the Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards (OAQPS)** which is located in Research/Triangle Park, NC. Laura brings a wealth of knowledge and experience about criteria and air toxics program issues from her work on implementing sulfur dioxide and lead NAAQS, as well as her team lead responsibilities for the urban air toxics strategy. Early in her EPA career, Laura was detailed to the Acid Rain Program to assist in developing key portions of that program, and later, as the OAR representative on the Federal government's "Whole House Initiative," she developed a national strategy for reducing lead exposure that focused on minority and low-income communities. In addition, Laura has been a key member of the OAQPS Tribal Team, leading and coordinating training and other activities related to air quality issues on tribal lands. **OAQPS Contact:** **Laura McKelvey**, (919) 541-5497, Mckelvey.Laura@epa.gov

OAR's Senior Tribal Air Program Manager News: As of October 1, 2000, David LaRoche, embarked on a two-year Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) appointment with Northern Arizona University. David will be managing a variety of projects at NAU's new Center for Sustainable Environments as well as teaching.

OAR will advertise to fill the position permanently during the spring of 2001. In the interim, **Tony Bynum**, visiting from the Yakama Nation on an IPA until October 2, 2001, is **Acting Tribal Air Program Manager**. Tony is assuming responsibility for the program management activities in consultation with Hollis Hope and Mike Hadrick, and he will participate in the Team for Strategic Program Integration in carrying out these responsibilities. Tony will be the lead Immediate Office contact on developing Tribal Air Program policy, program, and budget issues. He will coordinate with OAR program offices, EPA regional offices and media offices, the American Indian Environmental Office, the National Tribal Environmental Council and other organizations as necessary and appropriate.

Mike Hadrick will serve as **Project Officer** (and lead contact) on the cooperative agreements with NAU and AISES, and a new general support contract that will soon be awarded to provide programmatic, technical, and administrative support to assist EPA and tribes in implementing the Clean Air Act in Indian country. **Hollis Hope**, as **Team Leader**, will provide oversight and assistance on overall program management and planning activities for the Tribal Air Program. **OAR Contact:** **Tony Bynum**, (202) 564-1389, Bynum.Tony@epa.gov

OFFICE OF COOPERATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Federal Advisory Councils (FACs) are established by EPA to solicit input on regulations under development. Participation in a FAC provides an opportunity for Tribal (and other) Governmental representatives to have an impact on the direction of a regulation early in the development process when changes are more easily incorporated. EPA is seeking Tribally affiliated participants who might be willing to participate in a FAC. If interested, please contact: **Tim Sherer** (202) 564-9741, Sherer.Tim@epa.gov

INTERAGENCY NEWS

FEMA-AIEO Collaboration

In response to a new interagency agreement signed between EPA's Office of Water and the Federal Emergency Management Agency

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(FEMA), AIEO is discussing with FEMA how the agencies can work together and with Tribes to assist both EPA's and FEMA's Regional Offices in the delivery of emergency management services and related environmental work. **AIEO Contact Jose Aguto** at 202-260-6084, Aguto.Jose@epa.gov

HUD-IHS-EPA-DAG-BIA Collaboration

In preparation for the First Interagency Conference on Comprehensive Planning in Indian Country in Palm Springs, CA from Nov 28-30, 2000, AIEO participated in a workgroup laying the groundwork for a new interagency agreement addressing housing infrastructure in Indian Country. This work augments work done through a 1996 interagency agreement between HUD, BIA, and IHS, expands cooperation to other agencies, including EPA and Department of Agriculture. The document introduces the concept to Tribes and the federal agencies, and invites their participation in the formation of a new interagency agreement.

A primary goal of this effort is to improve coordination between the federal agencies which address the construction and management of infrastructures (such as such water, sewers, sanitation, waste management, and roads) related to housing developments in Indian Country. It is hoped that the agency can create a more integrated, efficient and effective delivery of services by means of grants management coordination and methods which would create local resource teams from different agencies working together "on the ground" in Indian country to provide these services. **AIEO Contact: Jose Aguto**, (202)260-6084, Aguto.Jose@epa.gov

New Executive Order on Tribal Consultation

With Presidential signing of the new Executive Order on Tribal Consultation on November 6, (EO 13175), AIEO has taken the initial lead on developing an interim policy guidance for the Agency. EO 13175 supercedes EO 13084, and strengthens federal agencies' obligations to consult with federally recognized Tribal governments on issues that have a direct and significant impact on Tribes. AIEO will be working with other EPA offices and with Tribes towards the establishment of an official guidance document. The intention of the document is to provide clear and practical guidance to assist agency rulewriters, policy makers, and other agency personnel on how to comply with the EO. **AIEO Contact: Jose Aguto**, (202)260-6084, Aguto.Jose@epa.gov

Meeting with Indigenous leaders from the Amazon in Brazil

On Friday, October 28, 2000, the AIEO, Office of International Activities (OIA) and Office of Environmental Justice (OEJ) co-hosted a meeting with Afukaka Kuikuru, Hereditary Chief of the Kuikuru Tribe, Aritana Yawalapiti, Hereditary Chief of the Yawalapiti Tribe, and Sandra Wellington, Director of the Indigenous People's Memorial. The Tribal leaders spoke of unwanted incursions onto the Xingu reserve, deleterious development outside the reserve that is polluting the waters of the reserve, and the difficulties of obtaining the resources and government support to defend their territories from the escalating environmental degradation. If anyone is interested in assisting the Kuikuru and Yawalapiti Tribes in building the capacity to protect their natural resources and culture, please contact Jose Aguto. **AIEO Contact: Jose Aguto**, (202) 260-6084, Aguto.Jose@epa.gov

